

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

A method and apparatus for mitigating the impact of lost data due to cell reselection for mobile stations operating in packet data transfer mode is described. A mobile station may perform cell reselection 2 to 4 times per minute ~~when located in an urban areas, even if the mobile station remains when stationary-~~ , and ~~A mobile station moving through a communications network (100)~~ may cross over various cell and routing area boundaries when moving through a communications network (100). ~~Further, a mobile~~ Mobile stations operating in push-to-talk mode may lose up to 8 seconds of data when reselecting a cell in a new routing area. In the embodiments, a ~~A~~ serving cell transmits an information element **(301, 303, 305)** in which the mobile station is informed whether cells in its neighbor list are in the same routing area as its serving cell. If the radio link to the serving cell is acceptable then the mobile station avoids reselection to cells outside its serving cell routing area.